

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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The digital copying machine 11 obtains an image data by reading a document, applies a character recognition process on its URL, and transmits an HTML file transfer request to the Web server 20 corresponding to said URL. If it receives an HTML file from the Web server 20, it generates the image data of the Web page from said HTML file and outputs the image data; if it fails to receive an HTML file from the Web server 20, it outputs the document image data. It compares the document image data with the Web image data. It outputs the Web image data if the images match; it outputs an image specified by the user, if the images do not match. It applies a character recognition process on the printing date, and retrieves from the hard disk the HTML file related to said URL received later than said printing date. It generates an image data for the Web page identified by the detected HTML file and outputs it, if it succeeds in detecting said HTML; it receives a new HTML file from the Web server 20 of said URL, generates an image data, and outputs it, if it fails to detect said HTML file.